

## STATE DEPARTMENT ACTS

Secretary Hay Says the Flour Seizures Were Illegal.

WILL INSIST UPON OUR RIGHTS.

Instructions Sent to Ambassador Choate Regarding the Flour Seizures. The State Department has received by cable from Ambassador Choate at London a statement of the facts he has learned in connection with the seizure by British warships of American goods on three merchant vessels, the Benzie, the Mashona and the Maria. The goods comprised not only flour, but miscellaneous articles of common trade, and while they were shipped for Lorenzo Marques in British and German ships, yet the character of the officers here is that they were not subject to seizure. They could not make representations on the subject until they possessed a knowledge of the facts, but as soon as Mr. Choate's statement was received, the State Department sent him by cable to inform the British Government that the right of seizure in these cases was not admitted.

This is the preliminary step usually taken in such negotiations. Next in order will be a report from the American consular representative at Lorenzo Marques respecting the present condition of the goods seized and detained and the damage sustained. The State Department is not yet fully informed on these points, although they will be necessary to the further presentation of the case. It will be the duty of the consular agent at Lorenzo Marques to ascertain and report these facts, and he is now engaged in doing this under the original instructions of the State Department.

While the Department is acting, as it promised in the beginning, firmly to protect all American rights of trade, it is showing no unseemly haste in the presentation of the case. The instructions to Mr. Choate were not a demand for the release of the goods, nor for indemnity, but rather a precautionary notice to the British Government to save all the rights of the United States. It will be sufficient to effect a settlement of the matter by negotiation, and the State Department has not the slightest doubt that the British Government will make all the facts as laid before it.

GERMAN FILES A PROTEST.

Foreign Office Sends a Note to Great Britain—Another Steamer Seized.

BERLIN (By Cable).—The Foreign Office has sent a note to Great Britain protesting against the seizure of the German steamer Bundesrath, which was arrested by a British cruiser off the east coast of Africa on suspicion of carrying contraband of war. The note states the German view of the case.

The Hamburg Correspondent states that the British have seized the Hamburg steamer Huis Wagner near Delagoa Bay, and that the officers of the vessel have been compelled to the Foreign Office.

A SURPLUS OF \$21,000,000.

The Government's Finances For the First Half of the Current Fiscal Year.

WASHINGTON, D. C. (Special).—The comparative statement of receipts and expenditures of the Government shows that for the first half of the current fiscal year there was a surplus of \$21,000,000, or more than \$20,000,000 more than in December, 1898. The expenditures for the first six months of the fiscal year the receipts were \$284,795,494 and the expenditures \$263,765,494.

The monthly circulation statement issued by the Controller of the Currency shows that at the close of business December 30, 1899, the total circulation of National bank notes was \$246,112,000, an increase of \$2,450,418 and for the month of \$2,450,418.

The circulation based on United States bonds amounted to \$209,539,585, a decrease for the year of \$4,250,002, and an increase for the month of \$599,083. The circulation secured by lawful money was \$36,435,535, an increase for the month of \$6,716,420, and for the year of \$1,897,122.

PORTUGAL'S CORTES OPENS.

Message From the Throne Falls to Mention the Transvaal.

LISBON (By Cable).—The Cortes was opened on Tuesday. The message from the Throne declared that the cordiality of Portugal's relations with the other powers was shown by the presence in the Tagus of fleets of France, Germany, and Great Britain.

The Government, it continued, had caused itself to be represented at the Brussels Conference, the former to check the abuses of alcoholism in South Africa and the latter to reduce the frequency and to minimize the horrors of war, and it was hoped that both humanitarian objects would be achieved.

The remainder of the speech was confined to domestic affairs, and no mention was made of Great Britain or the Transvaal.

ONLY ONE OF THE CREW SAVED.

Eight Lives Lost in the Wreck of a Schooner on Cabot Island.

St. Johns, N. F. (Special).—During a severe hurricane the schooner Puritan was wrecked on Cabot Island and completely driven off the crew of nine persons only one man was saved.

The sole survivor, though his arm was broken, contrived to get above the reach of the waves, remaining on a jutting pinnacle of rock until the keeper of the light-house lowered a rope and he was rescued by a spar rope by means of which the injured man was raised to a place of safety.

Six of the eight who perished were married men, and the crew was composed of Captain Carter was married only three days before sailing.

American Hogs Die in Cuba.

Eight hundred hogs were recently exported from the United States to Havana, but six hundred died within three days. Major Davis says the animals died of cholera, and recommends that no more hogs be sent from the United States, as he considers that further importations would be dangerous to the health of Havana.

British Consul to Become a Citizen.

Philip H. Burroughs, who has been British Consul in Kansas City, Mo., for nearly six years, has received an offer to become a naturalized citizen of the United States.

Prominent People.

Senator Hanna is reported to be worth \$5,000,000.

President Hadley once held the running record of Yale.

Li Hung Chang has been appointed Acting Viceroy of Canton.

Count Leo Tolstoy is now pronounced by his medical advisers fully restored to his ordinary health.

Sir Thomas Lipton has been unanimously elected rear-commodore of the Royal Yacht Club.

The committee having charge of the fund for the relief of the family of the late Major General Henry W. Lawton will endeavor to raise \$50,000.

## SAVED BY BREECHES BUOY

Thrilling Rescue of the Crew of the Schooner Hitchcock.

COULD NOT LAUNCH LIFE BOAT.

The Schooner Ran Aground in a Rough Sea—Life Line Fouled at First—Beach Patrolmen Made a Gallant Fight For Hours—The Crew Safely Pulled to Shore—Nine Sailors Rescued.

EASTPORT, L. I. (Special).—One of the most thrilling rescues of a shipwrecked crew ever witnessed on the Long Island coast was effected here when nine men were brought ashore over and through the waves in the breeches buoy from the stranded schooner S. P. Hitchcock. She is loaded with lumber.



RESCUING SHIPWRECKED SAILORS IN THE BREECHES BUOY.

The vessel was discovered aground by Beach Patrolmen Griffin and Tuttle. Signals for assistance were displayed, and the crew of the Moriches Life-Saving Station answered them, informing the crew of the vessel that efforts would be made to take them off. There was very rough sea on, and the life-savers decided that to launch the surf boat would only place themselves in great peril.

The crew ran out the other life-saving apparatus, and before daylight shot a life line out to the vessel. The second one reached her, and then the crew of the Hitchcock began to haul in the line. At its end was the heavy line which operates the breeches buoy.

Despite the simplicity of the gear and the printed directions which accompany the whip line and cable, the crew of the Hitchcock began to haul in the line. At its end was the heavy line which operates the breeches buoy.

The crew from the Moriches, Forke River, and Patuxent stations arrived at daylight to aid. The crews waited for the ship's crew to reach the line, but they did not. At 8 o'clock Captain Seaman of the East Moriches crew signaled to clear the line. The signal was answered as understood and men were seen to go to the beach, but it was 9 o'clock before the lines were in working order.

The Hitchcock had meanwhile driven in further, and a readjustment of the anchor and the fall was necessary. A few minutes after ten o'clock the breeches buoy reached the ship on its first trip. The first man to enter the breeches took the trip through the water as the ship rolled toward the beach, but it was 9 o'clock before the lines were in working order.

The second man's departure was better planned, and he rode ashore without getting wet. The rest had varied fortunes until the ninth man, when a few minutes after ten o'clock the breeches buoy reached the ship on its first trip. The first man to enter the breeches took the trip through the water as the ship rolled toward the beach, but it was 9 o'clock before the lines were in working order.

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YOUNG WOMAN PREVENTS A WRECK.

She Discovers a Burning Railroad Bridge Just in Time.

NEW YORK CITY (Special).—The bridge over the East Chester road on the suburban line of the New Haven Railroad in the Bronx caught fire, it is supposed from a spark dropped by a passing locomotive, and was on the verge of being destroyed.

Mabel Fields, the eighteen-year-old daughter of Tax Commissioner August C. Fields, discovered the fire as she was on the way to the bridge, and she ran to the track nearly half a mile to West Chester, where she notified the station agent.

He ran back to the bridge, arriving just in time to find the heavy right train which was running about thirty miles an hour. Several passenger trains arrived later and their crews fought the fire till a wrecking crew arrived from the Harlem River yards.

Twenty-two Sailors Drown.

LONDON (By Cable).—A dispatch from Bristol announces that the British steamer Borge, of Glasgow, foundered off Cape Finisterre a fortnight ago. Twenty-two of the crew were drowned. The survivors nine in number, have just arrived in Bristol.

FOURTEEN SOLDIERS INSANE.

Their Minds Unbalanced While Campaigning in the Philippines.

SAN FRANCISCO (Special).—The following soldiers, declared to be insane, have been sent to Washington, D. C., from the Presidio Military Reservation:

Sergeant Thomas F. Collins, Company G, Sixth Infantry; Sergeant Owen H. Wismann, Hospital Corps; Private Thomas E. Barry, Hospital Corps; Artisan Barber, Company E, Fourth Infantry; Michael Gallagher, Company C, Twenty-third Infantry; George M. Burton, Company C, Fourth Infantry; Walter A. O'Neill, Battery F, Sixth Artillery; Louis Ford, Company L, Fourth Infantry; Emerick Mulner, Company B, Sixth Infantry; David E. Young, Company A, Seventeenth Infantry; Frank Thayer, Company I, Seventeenth Infantry; George W. Decker, Company E, Eighteenth Infantry; Joseph Hoffman, Company E, Twenty-second Infantry; George J. Nixon, Company B, Twenty-second Infantry.

Nearly all of these men lost their minds as a result of campaigning in the Philippines.

Boy Murderer Hanged.

Edward Cressinger, aged nineteen years, was hanged at Sunbury, Penn., for the murder of sixteen-year-old Daisy Smith, daughter of a farmer at Boyles Run, lower Augusta township. Cressinger was the youngest murderer hanged in the State. The crime was committed on August 10, 1898, and was the result of jealousy.

Governor McLaughlin Named For Senator.

Governor McLaughlin was nominated by the joint caucus of the Legislature at Jackson, Miss., for the term in the United States Senate, beginning March, 1901. He received 118½ votes of a possible 170. Representative Allen was put in nomination, but most of his friends refused to vote.

Monument to a Cuban Patriot.

General Maximo Gomez has laid at San Pedro, Cuba, on the spot where General Maceo was killed, the foundation stone of a monument that will be erected in memory of the dead patriot.

\$500,000 Postoffice Deficiency.

Secretary Gage transmitted to Congress an estimate for deficiencies in the Postoffice Department amounting to about \$500,000. Included in the list is an item for \$150,000 for experimental rural free delivery, \$50,000 for railway postal clerks and \$300,000 for the representative of the Department to the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the international Union, at Bern, Switzerland.

Contraband Found on the Bundesrath.

It is reported at Durban, Natal, that the captured German steamer Bundesrath had on board five big guns, fifty tons of shells, and 180 trained artillerymen.

## CHICAGO CANAL OPENED.

Water Finally Turned Into the Drainage and Ship Channel.

WONDERFUL ENGINEERING FEAT.

Opening of the Great Waterway Divides the East From the West as Though It Were an Island—Gulf and Lakes are Now Connected—Entire Work Cost \$33,000,000—Seven Years in Building.

Q.—What is the richest and most powerful island in the world?

A.—The island bounded on the east by the Atlantic Ocean, on the south by the Gulf of Mexico, on the west by the Mississippi River and on the north by the Great Lakes, the St. Lawrence River and the Chicago Drainage Canal.

CHICAGO (Special).—At 9 o'clock Tuesday morning water was turned into the \$33,000,000 drainage canal and began to flow toward Lockport, where it will fall into the Desplantes River and thence flow into the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers. The collateral channel has been for some time completed from the Chicago River to within fifteen feet of the main channel, and the fifteen foot wall of earth, with two sluice gates behind it, has been all that has kept the Chicago River and Lake Michigan out of the canal.

Probably no public work ever has been undertaken by any other State or municipality which was designed to do so much for the navigable and commercial interests of the country as this canal. The requirement of the law, which compelled the construction of the rock sections to meet the demands of the next generation, was what for it has laid the foundation of a mammoth ship canal, connecting the Great Lakes with the Mississippi River and the Gulf, and saving the country a great deal of money.

The Federal Government the great expense that would be necessary in rock excavation and blasting under the flowing water. The canal, if confined to the single requirement of disposing of sewage, could have been constructed for \$12,000,000. So the sanitary district has expended \$21,000,000 in the direction of the great navigable waterway.

As an engineering triumph the great interest in the canal lies in the fact that it disposes of the sewage of this city in a manner contrary to the laws of nature and gravity. The canal properly speaking begins at the south branch of the Chicago River at Robey street, and continues southward as an entirely artificial channel until it reaches the controlling works at Lockport, a distance of twenty-eight miles.

The popular belief that the waters of the canal having been once turned down the valley, the flow must be unceasing and beyond human control is erroneous, for the flow of this great outlet is controlled by a dam which can be stopped almost as easily as the simple turning of a faucet in the spout of a barrel.

The first work in this great enterprise was begun on "Shovel Day," September 3, 1892, on the rock cut below Lemont, on the line between Cook and Will Counties, so that a little over seven years have been consumed in the entire work, involving an expenditure of \$33,000,000. In only eight per cent. of the entire work was done during the so-called panic period, and owing to this fact the entire cost of construction was reduced about \$8,000,000.

Board of Trustees and its engineers are unanimous in the belief that the work could not be duplicated under existing prices for both labor and material for less than \$40,000,000.

SLAVERY IN GUAM MUST CEASE.

Proclamation Issued by Captain Leary, the American Governor.

MANILA (By Cable).—A naval officer who has arrived here from Guam brings a proclamation issued by Captain Leary, naval governor of that island, decreeing the absolute prohibition and total abolition of slavery or peonage, the order to take effect February 25.

The prologue of the proclamation declares that the Spanish system of peonage, amounting to slavery, is a menace to popular liberty and a violation of the privileges guaranteed by the American constitution.

Captain Leary also "deported" all the Spanish priests, for reasons which were sufficient for him.

CUBA'S CABINET SWORN IN.

Members Swear Allegiance to the Authorities of the United States.

HAVANA (By Cable).—The President of the Supreme Court, Senor Mendoza, in the Throne Room of the Palace, administered the oath of office to the members of the new Cabinet, with the exception of Senor Villalon, the Secretary of Public Works, who was unable to reach here in time.

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Child Gets a \$10,000 Verdict.

A jury in the Circuit Court at Newark, N. J., brought in a verdict for \$10,000 against the New Jersey Street Railway in favor of Ida H. Herlich, three years old, whose right hand was cut off by a trolley car on July 6 last.

Fell 600 Feet to Death.

Andrew Johnson was killed by falling 600 feet down a shaft in the Kearsarge mine, near Calumet, Mich. John Sisco, his partner, was arrested, as he and Johnson were heard quarreling just previous to the accident.

Signal Corps Men Wanted.

Secretary of War Root will soon call on Congress for additional men for the Signal Corps to enable General Greely, the chief of this corps, to assume charge of the commercial cable business of the Philippine Islands with the ending of the war in the Philippines when the various ports of trade of the islands will be opened and telegraph and cable communications between the various points will be resumed.

General Davis Summoned Home.

Governor-General Davis has been summoned from Puerto Rico to give information which will aid Congress in establishing a permanent form of government for the island.

## PLAGUE STRIKES MANILA.

Health Authorities Discover the Disease in the City.

FRESH OUTBREAK IN HONOLULU.

War Department is Taking Active Measures to Preserve a Rigid Quarantine in the Philippines—Two Deaths Have Occurred—Health Officials Are Not Alarmed—The Plague in Honolulu.

MANILA (By Cable).—The health officers have found a native with all the symptoms of bubonic plague, in a house in the walled city, where two suspicious deaths have occurred. The patient has been isolated, and every precaution has been taken to prevent a spread of the disease.

WASHINGTON, D. C. (Special).—Secretary Root laid Surgeon-General Wyman into consultation on the establishment of a quarantine system for the Philippines. It was decided that the War Department should confide the maintenance of a quarantine system to the Marine Hospital service.

It happens fortunately that the Marine Hospital service is already in operation in the Philippines, while two of its surgeons are now on their way to Manila, so that little delay will be encountered in beginning to draw a rigid quarantine line around the islands.

Surgeon-General Wyman says the disease no longer creates the dread it once did because it has been demonstrated that it can be handled by modern scientific work. It has been stamped out of Alexandria, Egypt, Kobe, Japan and Vienna, Austria.

The methods of fighting the disease are the same as used against smallpox— isolation, disinfection and sanitation. The great danger lies in its possible introduction into new localities through ambulances, or walking cases which defy the surveillance of the authorities.

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Plague Reappears After an Interval of Thirteen Days.

SAN FRANCISCO (Special).—After an interval of thirteen days, in which no cases of plague had been reported, a fresh outbreak broke out again. A young girl named Ethel Johnson died on December 31, and on December 29 two new cases were discovered among the Chinese. The latter cases were found in opposite sections of the city, one at E. and the other at Palama. In the opinion of the physicians the Palama case is the most serious, as it is the only one in which death has occurred since the outbreak.

Until the quarantine at Honolulu is definitely settled, the army transports sailing from here will stop at the port of San Francisco, and will not be allowed to land at Honolulu. They will take more precautions and go straight through to Manila, as at Guam it is necessary.

WASHINGTON, D. C. (Special).—The port received by the State Department and by Surgeon-General Wyman from Honolulu confirms the dispatches as to the existence of the plague. Surgeon-General Wyman is now in the city, and is the last of the infection of San Francisco from Honolulu.

New Plague District in Brazil.

Rio Janeiro, Brazil (By Cable).—The bubonic plague has broken out in the city and neighborhood of Sao Paulo.

PROMOTION FOR ARMY OFFICERS.

President Names Bates and Wheaton to the Major-Generals of Volunteers.

WASHINGTON, D. C. (Special).—The President sent to the Senate the following nominations of army officers for promotion: Brigadier-General J. C. Bates to be Major-General of Volunteers; Brigadier-General Lloyd Wheaton, to be Major-General of Volunteers, by brevet.

Two girls escaped from the State Industrial School at Trenton, N. J. The girls made their escape at midnight, but they were soon captured in the morning and taken back to the school.

John Albert, known throughout the country for his part in the abduction of a girl, died at his home, Philadelphia, aged ninety-one. He was the first to die of a heart attack of an American woodsman, who had been in the woods for a long time.

Four men were killed and several others injured by a boiler explosion one mile west of Elizabethtown, Penn. They were employees of Keller & Cresson, railroad contractors.

Fire completely gutted the buildings erected from the National Monetary Board, and damaged the building at Nos. 212 and 214 Monroe street, Chicago, caused a loss aggregating about \$1,000,000, and resulted in the injury of nine firemen, two of them seriously.

Former Congressman Michael Griffin, leader of the State Tax Commission, died suddenly of apoplexy in his office at Eau Claire, Wis.

John Hough, the slayer of Harry Chadwick, was sentenced to imprisonment for life by Judge Ralph Wheeler, at Middlebury, Conn.

Four men have been frozen to death in North Carolina within ten days, two whites and two negroes.

The public schools of Reading, Penn., are crowded that the Board has decided to build a new school to accommodate the growing number of pupils.

Samuel Wall and Albert W. Barnes, both of Akron, Ohio, lie in the same grave. The men had been lifelong chums and business associates. Both died of cancer of the same kind, and the public health officer has determined not to separate them in death. They lie in the one grave.

Foreign.

A detachment of the West India Regiment (colored) embarked at Kingston, Jamaica, to reinforce the Bermuda garrison.

The Queen of England has accepted the services of twelve battalions of militia for foreign stations, and of these are assigned to South Africa.

The British sailing vessel Emily Lloyd has been wrecked near Clearbourg. The captain and twelve of her crew were drowned. The French steamer St. Jean was also wrecked near Ere. Seven of her crew were lost.

A dispatch received at Rome from Massawa says an Abyssinian army of 10,000 men sent north to subdue the Tigre rebels has reached that province, and that Ras Alula has ordered the Tigre army to establish his residence at Endamene.

Denmark will not enter into negotiations for the sale of the Danish West Indies to the United States until an act shall have been passed by Congress enabling the purchase to be made.

Extra precautions have been adopted by the military authorities at Dublin, Ireland. The constabulary has been fully armed.

The Cullier Government proposes to devote the surplus revenue, \$1,200,000, to public works.

Deputies representing agricultural and industrial constituencies in France are opposing the ratification of the Franco-American treaty.

Prince Arandberg, recently appointed German Ambassador at Berlin, is a subordinate without power and lacks the confidence of the Emperor. It will be suggested that a foreign German probably a German—be asked to resign the army.

The Indian Congress has declared its dissatisfaction with the currency measures of the Government, alleging that these have the effect of depreciating the value of the rupee.

A traveling library service has been instituted by the Illinois State Farmers' Association.

Renewed reports of strained relations between Russia and Japan have reached Victoria, B. C.

It took a bid of \$55,000 to secure the privilege of letting out seats for the Paris Exposition of 1900.

## THE NEWS EPITOMIZED

Washington Items.

Major Alexander Rogers, of the Sixth Cavalry, has at his own request been relieved from duty as military attaché to the United States at Paris, and ordered to join his regiment in this country.

The Board of Naval Construction has recommended that the auxiliary cruiser Badger, lately the Yamori, be sold. It will cost not less than \$250,000 to put the ship in a condition for naval service. She is at Mare Island, Cal.

The statement issued by the Director of the Mint shows that the total coinage of 1899 was \$139,349,101, as follows: Gold, \$111,344,230; silver, \$26,061,519; minor coins, \$1,933,351.

Captain F. A. Cook, who commanded the cruiser Brooklyn in the battle of Santiago, died President McKinley has been responsible for the loss made by the Brooklyn, for which Rear-Admiral Schley has been criticised.

A delegation of two Hawaiians, Robert Wilcox and Edgar Cayless, arrived in Washington to urge the appointment of a Hawaiian to the Hawaiian Islands. They are opposed to the territorial form of government at present recommended for the Hawaiian Islands.

Attorney-General Griggs decided that evidence in the case of the Interstate Commerce Commission relative to the classification of freights did not warrant legal measures against the Official Classification Committee under the Interstate Commerce Act.

General Otis, at Manila, called the War Department's First Lieutenant Edward Taylor, Twelfth Infantry, was run over by a train crossing the Agno River near Bauista, and died in a few hours.

Inspector-General Breckinridge has prepared the text of a bill for the proposed new law of the Philippines, which will be presented to the Philippine Commission. The bill provides that the number of Inspectors-General shall be increased from nineteen to twenty-five officers.

Our Adopted Islands.

The opening of the Philippine ports of Dagupan, San Fernando, Vigan, Laoag and Zamboanga, under the provisions of the Insular Laws, permits the resumption of trade, bringing relief to communities greatly in need of foodstuffs.

The Cuban Planters' Association has presented to General Wood at Havana a statement, in which occurs a request that the Government provide Cuba with a number of Inspectors-General shall be increased from nineteen to twenty-five officers.

A great quantity of counterfeit American gold coins is in circulation at Havana, Cuba. Life along the coasts of the provinces of Jaguayan and North and South Flores, P. R., is a resuming normal conditions.

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